

wherein said nucleic acid is operably linked to a heterologous regulatory sequence for expression of said polypeptide in a mammalian cell.

99. The expression vector of claim 95, wherein said regulatory sequence is capable of expressing said nucleic acid in a constitutive, inducible, or cell-type specific manner.

100. The expression vector of claim 95, wherein said expression vector is an adenoviral vector or a retroviral vector.

Marked-up version of proposed amended claims

81. A method of inducing apoptosis of a cell, said method comprising (a) administering to said cell by intratumoral injection [expressing in said cell] a nucleic acid [having 50% or greater nucleotide sequence identity to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO.: 3 and] encoding a polypeptide comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO.: 4 and capable of inducing apoptosis, said nucleic acid operably linked to a heterologous regulatory sequence for expression of said polypeptide, and (b) expressing said nucleic acid in said cell, wherein expressing said nucleic acid in said cell induces apoptosis of said cell.

85. The method of claim 81 [or 84], wherein said regulatory sequence is capable of expressing said nucleic acid in a constitutive, inducible, or cell-type specific manner.

86. The method of claim 81 [or 84], wherein said nucleic acid is in an adenoviral vector or a retroviral vector.

87. The method of claim 81 [or 84], wherein said cell is a cancer cell.

88. A pharmaceutical composition comprising (i) an expression vector comprising a [substantially purified] nucleic acid [capable of hybridizing at high stringency to the complement of the nucleic acid of SEQ ID NO.: 3 and] encoding a polypeptide comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO.: 4 and capable of inducing apoptosis, and (ii) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said nucleic acid is operably linked to a heterologous regulatory sequence for expression of said polypeptide in a mammalian cell.

92. The composition of claim 88 [or 89], wherein said regulatory sequence is capable of expressing said nucleic acid in a constitutive, inducible, or cell-type specific manner.

93. The composition of claim 88 [or 89], wherein said nucleic acid is in an adenoviral vector or a retroviral vector.

95. An expression vector comprising a nucleic acid [capable of hybridizing at high stringency to the complement of the nucleic acid of SEQ ID NO.: 3 and] encoding a polypeptide comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO.: 4 and capable of inducing apoptosis, wherein said nucleic acid is operably linked to a heterologous regulatory sequence for expression of said polypeptide in a mammalian cell.

99. The expression vector of claim 95 [or 96], wherein said regulatory sequence is capable of expressing said nucleic acid in a constitutive, inducible, or cell-type specific manner.

100. The expression vector of claim 95 [and 96], wherein said expression vector is an adenoviral vector or a retroviral vector.